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STATE OF UTAH
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
150 West North Temple, P.O. Box 2500, Salt Lake City, Utah 84110-2500



Kenneth Lee Alkema, Director
Room 474 801-533-6121

September 4, 1984

Mr. Eric Johnson
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region VIII
1860 Lincoln Street
Denver, Colorado 80295

Subject: Site inspection report, Richardson's Flat tailings,
Summit County, Utah

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Submitted herewith is a site inspection report for the
Richardson's Flat tailings.

Based upon information available at the time this inspection
was prepared, it is recommended that this site be given National
Priority List Consideration. It is further recommended that the FIT
take HiVol samples to score the route for air.

Richardson Flat tailings are located in the NW 1/4 of section
1, T25, R4E, of the Park City East, Quadrangle, between Park City and
Keetley Junction. The exact amount of tailings on-site is unknown.
But it is estimated that there are approximately 7 million tons of
tailings most likely deposited in the late 60's and early 70's.

The mill tailings at Richardson's Flat came from the Ontario
Keetley mine and other mines owned by United Park City Mines. The
tailings are next to Silver Creek and numerous small tributaries
flow through the tailings.

Mr. Ray Wortley is currently leasing part of the tailings from
United Park City Mines and is using the tailings as backfill for
sewer lines and roadbase.

During the June inspection samples were taken from groundwater,
surface water and tailings. Groundwater concentrations of arsenic
at .325 ppm, cadmium at .120 ppm, lead at 31.8 ppm and mercury at
0.26 ppm were found in a spring below Richardson's Flat. It was
observed during the inspection that tailings were being blown
off-site. It is recommended that EPA's FIT collect HiVol samples
downgradient of Richardson's Flat.

The score given Richardson's Flat without the route for air is 36.19, but the state feels with the route for air added it would increase the score.

If you have any questions, please contact Don Verbica.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dale Parker".

Dale D. Parker, Ph.D.
Executive Secretary
Utah Solid and Hazardous Wastes
Committee

DGV/ab
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